II. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A sample arraying/assembling device comprising:

a distributing section which is capable of holding respective solutions containing samples to be distributed, ~~and which has~~ the distributing section comprising a plurality of holding ends arranged in a predetermined matrix; and

a wound body ~~which has~~ comprising:

one of a plate body and a prism, the one of the plate body and the prism defining a plane surface of the wound body; and

~~wound with~~ a string-like or thread-like slender foundation member on which samples are to be distributed at distribution intervals of column or line of the matrix, wherein the foundation member is wound around the one of the plate body and the prism in accordance with a winding route so that:

~~which is~~ portions of the foundation member are arranged on the plane surface of the wound body and are spaced in a parallel relation on the plane surface at winding intervals of the line or column of the matrix ~~on the plane surface,~~; and

~~so that the~~ respective holding ends of the distributing section can come into contact ~~therewith~~ with the foundation member;

wherein the distributing section distributes the samples on the wound foundation member in distribution positions of the respective samples provided at the distribution intervals along the winding route of the foundation member.

2. (original) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 1, comprising a container which has a plurality of wells capable of storing the respective solutions containing said samples to be distributed, arrayed in said predetermined matrix, and said respective holding ends of said distributing section are provided so as to be able to be inserted into said respective wells.

3. (original) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 1, wherein said distributing section has liquid storing sections capable of storing the respective solutions containing the samples to be distributed, arrayed in said predetermined matrix, and said holding ends are respectively communicated with said liquid storing sections.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) A sample arraying/assembling device according to any one of claim 1 through claim 3, wherein said distributing section has a plurality of holding ends projecting to the bottom side of a rectangular board, and arranged in said predetermined matrix.

7. (previously presented) A sample arraying/assembling device according to any one of claim 1 through claim 3, wherein said holding ends have a material with a water bearing property.

8. (previously presented) A sample arraying/assembling device according to any one of claim 1 through claim 3, wherein the surface of said wound body is provided with a localization section which localizes the samples within a fixed range on said foundation member, in distribution positions of the respective samples provided at distribution intervals of the column or line along a winding route of said foundation member which has been provided in parallel at said winding intervals of the line or column of the predetermined matrix.

9. (original) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 8, wherein said localization sections are concavities at said distribution intervals of the column or line, along the winding route of said foundation member that has been provided in parallel at the winding intervals of the line or column of the predetermined matrix, and said foundation member is in contact with the holding ends in said concavities.

10. (original) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 8, wherein said localization sections are convex portions provided at said distribution intervals of the column or line, along the winding route of said foundation member that has been provided in parallel at the winding intervals of the line or column of the predetermined matrix.

11. (previously presented) A sample arraying/assembling device according to any one of claim 1 through claim 3, wherein the surface of said wound body is formed with striations for guiding the foundation member along the winding route of said foundation member.

12. (previously presented) A sample arraying/assembling device according to any one of claim 1 through claim 3, comprising: a base which detachably attaches said container and/or said wound body solely or in laminations in this order; and a movable section which is detachably attached with said distributing section above said base, and which can move the distributing section vertically so that it can be in contact with or separated from said container and/or the wound body.

13-16 (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A sample arraying/assembling device comprising:

a distributing section which is capable of holding respective solutions containing samples to be distributed, ~~and which has~~ the distributing section comprising a plurality of holding ends arranged in a predetermined matrix;

a wound body ~~which has~~ defining a plane surface, the wound body comprising ~~wound with~~ a string-like or thread-like slender foundation member on which samples are to be distributed at distribution intervals of column or line of the matrix, wherein the foundation member is wound in accordance with a winding route so that: ~~which is~~ portions of the foundation member are arranged on the plane surface of the wound body and are spaced in a parallel relation on the plane surface

at the winding intervals of the line or column ~~on the plane surface,~~ of the matrix; and

~~so that the~~ respective holding ends of the distributing section can come into contact ~~therewith~~ with the foundation member;

a detachably provided core to which one end of said foundation member is attached, and which is to be wound with said foundation member; and

a foundation member rolling section which sequentially takes out said foundation member from said wound body while rolling it up around said core at narrower intervals than said winding intervals; so as to assemble and arrange said foundation member;

wherein the distributing section distributes the samples on the wound foundation member in distribution positions of the respective samples provided at the distribution intervals along the winding route of the foundation member.

18. (currently amended) A sample arraying/assembling method of distributing samples at once at distribution intervals of column and line of a predetermined matrix, on a string-like or thread-like slender foundation member, comprising:

a holding step for holding respective solutions containing samples to be distributed, on a plurality of holding ends arranged in [[a]] the predetermined matrix; ~~and~~

providing a wound body, comprising:

providing one of a plate body and a prism, the one of the plate body and the prism defining a plane surface of the wound body; and

winding the foundation member around the one of the plate body and the prism in accordance with a winding route so that portions of the foundation member are arranged on the plane surface of the wound body and are spaced in a parallel relation on the plane surface at winding intervals of the line or column of the matrix;

a contact step for making said respective holding ends contact with said foundation member ~~wound on a wound body having a plane surface wound so that said~~

~~foundation member is arranged in parallel at the winding intervals of the line or the column on the plane surface~~; and

distributing the samples on the wound foundation member in distribution positions of the respective samples provided at the distribution intervals along the winding route of the foundation member.

19. (original) A sample arraying/assembling method according to claim 18, wherein said holding step is performed by inserting said holding ends into respective wells of a container having a plurality of wells arranged in the predetermined matrix, and storing solutions containing samples to be distributed.

20. (original) A sample arraying/assembling method according to either one of claim 18 and claim 19, wherein said holding step comprises supplying the solution arranged in the predetermined matrix, and containing samples to be distributed, into a plurality of respective holding ends from the inside thereof.

21-26 (canceled)

27. (withdrawn) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a core joined to said wound body by said foundation member, the core having an axis of rotation and a peripheral curved face or two side faces or more either on which said samples are distributed in predetermined positions with intervals, or being wound or coated with said foundation member on which said samples are distributed at predetermined positions with intervals around said axis of rotation; and

a rotating section which intermittently rotates said core around said axis for each predetermined angle so that said respective samples can be distributed around said peripheral curved face, said respective side faces, or said wound or coated member, in a condition where the axis of said peripheral curved face, respective side faces, or wound or coated member is kept horizontal.

28. (withdrawn) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a core joined to said wound body by said foundation member, the core having an axis of rotation and a peripheral curved face or two side faces or more either on which said samples are distributed in predetermined positions with intervals, or being wound or coated with said foundation member on which said samples are distributed at predetermined positions with intervals around said axis of rotation;

a translucent or semitranslucent pipette tip capable of storing said core and having an axis and a fluid drawing and discharging opening;

a rotating section which intermittently rotates said pipette tip and said core stored in said pipette tip, around the axis of said pipette tip or the core for each predetermined angle; and

an optical information acquisition section which receives light from said core based on the intermittent rotation of said rotating section and obtains optical information.

29. (new) A sample arraying/assembling device according to claim 1, wherein said wound body has a rotationally symmetric axis so as to be orthogonal or approximately orthogonal to the axis.